

Inspect What You Expect

How the Department of Correction is improving the Indiana prison system

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The Department of Correction provides a valuable public safety service to the citizens of Indiana. In short, the Department is responsible for insuring that criminal offenders convicted of serious crimes are not given an opportunity to commit additional offenses against their community during their period of incarceration, while at the same time trying to modify every offender's behavior so they will not re-offend after release and discharge. This service requires the dedicated effort of nearly 8,000 state employees and countless volunteers, working in high-risk jobs at 32 prison sites across the State of Indiana. Unfortunately, all too often the public views corrections based upon what is portrayed in the movies or on television, and concludes that all staff are knuckle-dragging guards who will compromise their professional ethics if the price is right. They may also believe that most offenders are beyond redemption and can never be changed. In fact, during the past 18 months or so, the Indiana Department of Correction has been working tirelessly to establish high standards of professionalism for its staff, pushing to instill best correctional practices at all facilities, and striving to maintain appropriate conditions of confinement at each prison. To help accomplish these goals, the Department is relying on its internal resources, as well as the assistance from external partners such as the Office of Inspector General. To help insure that the Department of Correction operates within the boundaries set out by laws, regulations, nationally accepted practices, rules of ethics, and its own policies and procedures, the Department utilizes a variety of specially trained staff.

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About The Department of Correction

The Department employs over 8,000 employees and houses 24,000 adult and juveniles in 32 facilities, ranging from minimum to maximum custody, prison camps, juvenile facilities and work release centers. The Department's home page on the Internet can be found at: <http://www.in.gov/indcorrection>. The Department's Re-entry Site can be found: <http://www.reentry.in.gov>.

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